

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 1-4 is acknowledged.

The Examiner's comment regarding the Information Disclosure Statement are noted and although the prior art cited in the Search Report is not deemed particularly relevant to the present claims, so that the record will show that they have been considered, a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith.

The objections to the specification have been noted and appropriate corrections have been made.

With respect to the rejection of claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, claim 5 has been amended to obviate the rejection. As indicated by the Examiner, it is now allowable. Claims 6 and 7 have been amended to recite a slide fastener in the preamble. Inasmuch as these claims further limit claim 1, they are believed to be appropriate.

Although Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103, because they depend from the allowed claim 1, they too should be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance of claims 1-7 is earnestly solicited.

If any further issues remain after this amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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